

07-17-4

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

21 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

SUBJECT : OGC Review of ODM "Key Documents" For
Operation ALERT 1956"

25X1A9a 1. By memorandum of 10 August 1956 to the General Counsel, [REDACTED] the Emergency Planning Officer for the Agency, suggested the desirability of a review of the Presidential proclamations prepared for use in Operation ALERT 1956 in order to determine whether or not Agency activities and requirements would be circumscribed by those directives.

25X1A9a 2. Since the date of [REDACTED] memorandum, this Office has received from [REDACTED] a number of proposed directives which are being coordinated among interested agencies by the Bureau of the Budget. These latter documents are intended to set forth the actual terms of Presidential proclamations that would be issued upon the declaration of a national emergency.

3. Some of the proclamations developed for Operation ALERT 1956 are hypothetical and partially based upon the assumptions used in that exercise. Other Operation ALERT documents are identical with those mentioned in paragraph 2 above and are not hypothetical. Due to the complexities of emergency planning both within ODM and other governmental agencies the development of documents of this kind in final and official form is proceeding slowly.

25X1A9a 4. It seems to me that [REDACTED] has made a fruitful suggestion that documents of this general nature should be analyzed by this Office to determine their impact upon Agency wartime activities. However, it is not clear at this time as to what effort on our part is worthwhile in the analysis of the Operation ALERT 1956 documents because of the hypothetical nature of some of those documents. Having received your permission to contact [REDACTED] in this general connection, I have arranged to visit his Office

early next week. At that time I will endeavor to ascertain which of the Operation ALERT 1956 documents are realistic and which are intentionally artificial so that this Office can concentrate its activities upon the former, and upon the non-hypothetical aspects of the latter.

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Assistant General Counsel

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